**McCaskill-Common Core Phase IV Lesson Plan-Literacy**

**Student Responses to Quote Analysis**

Music: *The Message on the Rock* by Robert Sheldon including narration from famous presidential speeches

Student task: Analyze quotes for meaning and explain context of the quote as related to historical setting.

**Quote**

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of freedom.”

John F. Kennedy, February 20, 1961

**Student Response**

When John F. Kennedy made his inaugural speech and said this quote he was dealing with the climax of the Cold War. The country was looking for comfort and reassurance from their newly elected President. The Soviets had a successful atomic bomb test and Americans feared they would be the Soviet Union’s next target. Kennedy reassured the Americans by telling them that he would do anything to ensure America’s safety and survival.

~Reagan, Sophia, Aaron, Austin, Jelani, Charlotte, Kylee

**Quote**

“We will not waver, we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail.”

George W. Bush, 2001

**Student Response**

These were words spoken to the souls of the American people by George W. Bush on October 7, 2001 in light of the recent terrorist attacks on the American way of life. Although the Taliban regime attacked the American people, they did not touch the American soul. If anything, they helped us, made us stronger, and proved to us that we will not be destroyed.

~Raj, Hunter, Brandon, Nolan, Mike, Jeffery, Vince

**Assignment-research Freedom’s Rock**

Freedom’s Rock

Freedom’s Rock is a large boulder sitting in the rural town of Polk County, Iowa. Every Memorial Day since 1999, Ray “Bubba” Sorenson II paints the rock in view of thanking our nation’s veterans for their sacrifice and service in defending our country. The boulder is approximately 56 tons and 12 feet tall. Freedom’s Rock represents the journey, losses, and struggles present in building America from the ground up.

~Marissa, Caila, Audrey, Georgia, Courtney